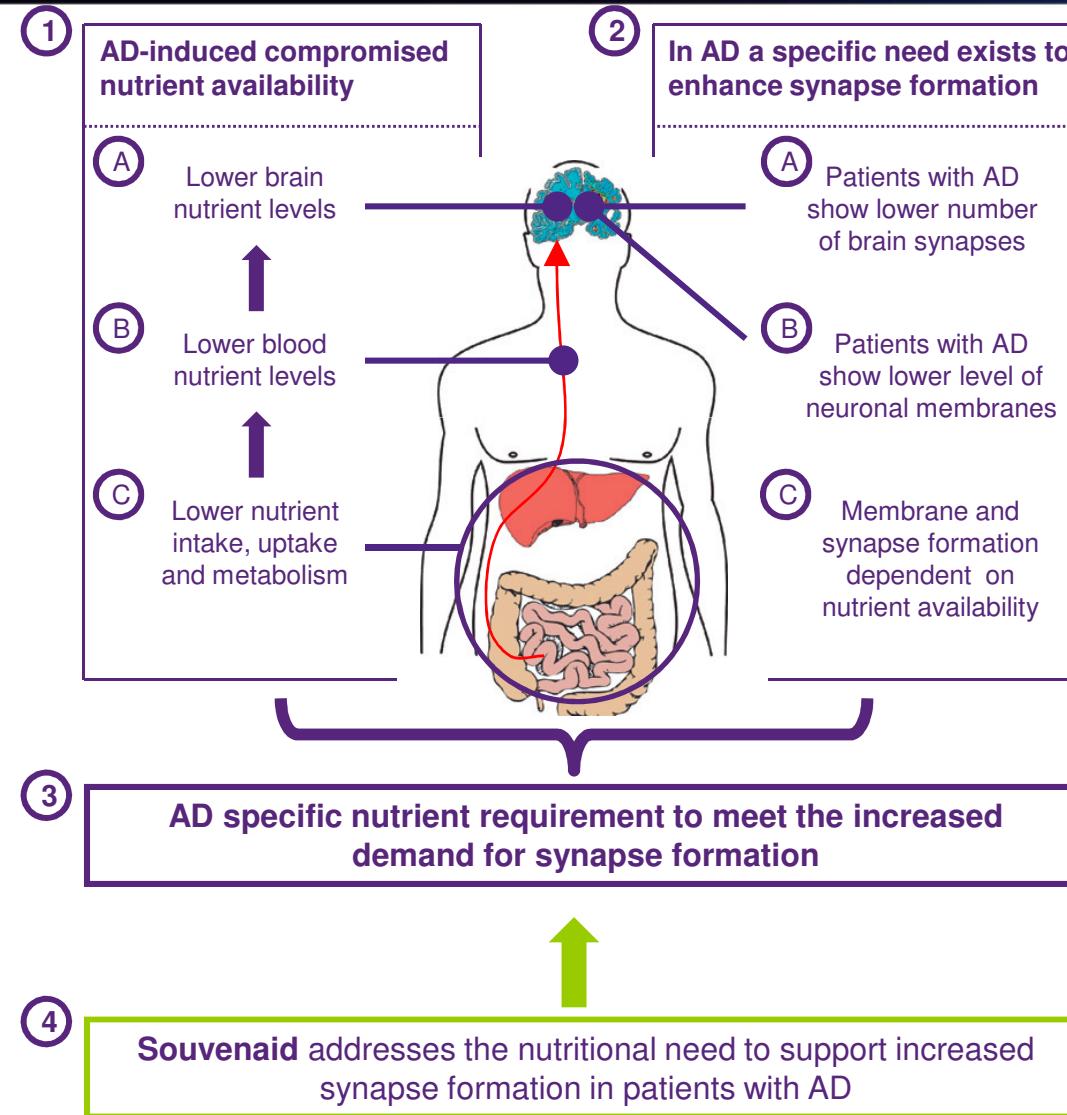
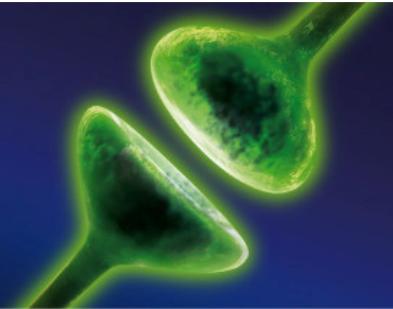


# Addressing nutritional requirements in early Alzheimer's disease: what, why and when?

Laus Broersen, PhD  
Senior Neuroscientist  
Nutricia Research, Advanced Medical Nutrition  
Utrecht, The Netherlands



# AD specific nutritional needs for membrane and synapse formation



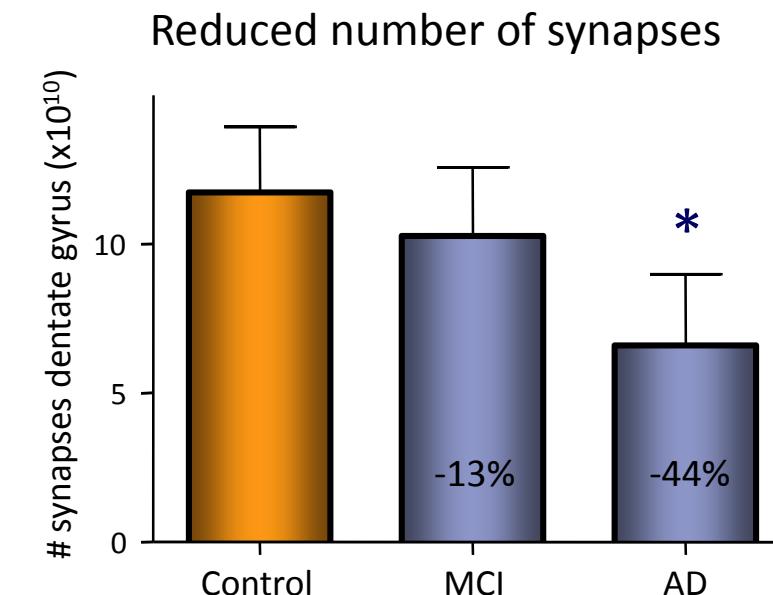
# Synapse loss is structural basis of functional deficits in AD



## Physical Basis of Cognitive Alterations in Alzheimer's Disease: Synapse Loss Is the Major Correlate of Cognitive Impairment

Robert D. Terry, MD,\* Eliezer Masliah, MD,\* David P. Salmon, PhD,\* Nelson Butters, PhD,† Richard DeTeresa, BS,\* Robert Hill, PhD,\* Lawrence A. Hansen, MD,\* and Robert Katzman, MD\*

Terry RD, Masliah E, Salmon DP, Butters N, DeTeresa R, Hill R, Hansen LA, Katzman R. Physical basis of cognitive alterations in Alzheimer's disease: synapse loss is the major correlate of cognitive impairment. *Ann Neurol* 1991;30:572–580.



VIEWPOINT

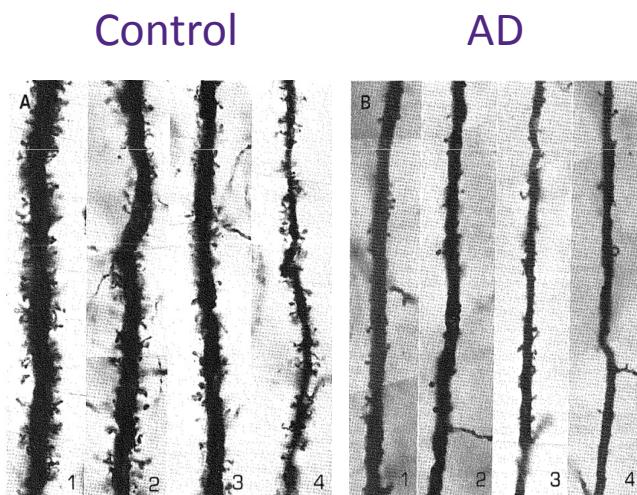
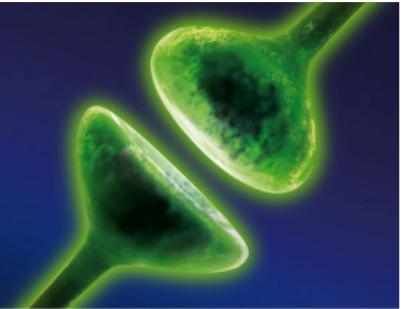
## Alzheimer's Disease Is a Synaptic Failure

Dennis J. Selkoe

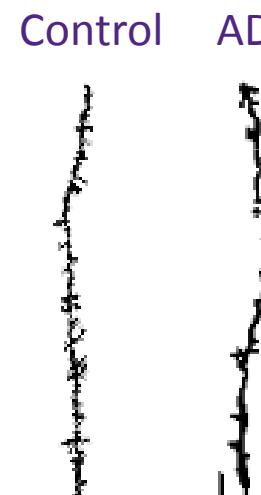
SCIENCE VOL 298 25 OCTOBER 2002

Synapse loss in AD is confirmed in >30 publications

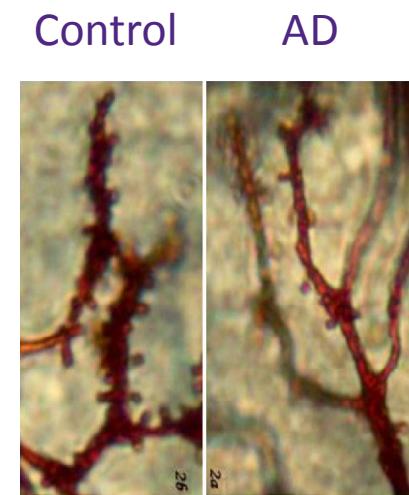
# Loss of dendritic spines in AD



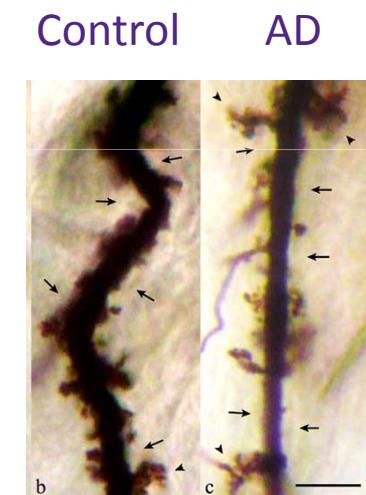
Catala et al (1988)  
Hum Neurobiol



Einstein et al (1994)  
J Neurosci



Mavroudis et al (2010)  
Am J Alz Dis Other Dement



Tsamis et al (2010)  
Curr Alzheimer Res

# Decreased brain phospholipids in AD indicates disrupted membrane integrity

*Int. J. Mol. Sci.* **2013**, *14*, 1310-1322; doi:10.3390/ijms14011310

Review

## Phospholipids and Alzheimer's Disease: Alterations, Mechanisms and Potential Biomarkers

Marko Kosicek and Silva Hecimovic \*

Table 1

Phospholipid changes in the brain of individuals with Alzheimer's disease.

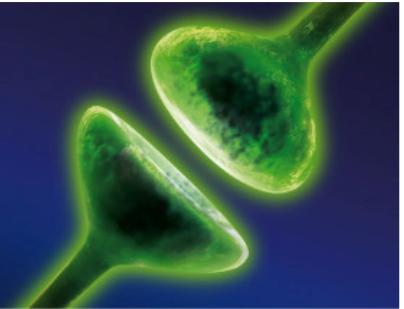
OPEN ACCESS  
International Journal of  
**Molecular Sciences**  
ISSN 1422-0067  
[www.mdpi.com/journal/ijms](http://www.mdpi.com/journal/ijms)

Lipid class	Change/Normalization	Sample size/Examined brain regions/Analytical method	Reference
PI	decreased/wet weight	9 AD and 9 controls/HPG, SMTG, IPL and cerebellum/TLC	[14]
PI	decreased/wet weight	17 AD and 18 controls/anterior temporal cortex/TLC	[15]
PI	decreased/relative	45 AD and 11 controls/SMFG, STG, IPL, occipital cortex and cerebellum/ <sup>31</sup> P NMR	[21]
PE	decreased/wet weight	9 AD and 9 controls/HPG, SMTG, IPL and cerebellum/TLC	[14]
PE	decreased/DNA	10 AD and 10 controls/frontal, primary auditory and parietal cortex/photometrical phosphorus determination	[16]
PPE	decreased/relative	9 AD and 9 controls/middle-temporal cortex/HPLC and TLC	[18]
PPE	decreased/phosphate	15 AD and 13 controls/frontal cortex, hippocampus and white matter/HPLC and GC	[19]
PPE	decreased/relative	45 AD and 11 controls/SMFG, STG, IPL, occipital cortex and cerebellum/ <sup>31</sup> P NMR	[21]
PPE	decreased/protein	6 CDR = 0; 6 CDR = 0.5; 6 CDR = 1; 6 CDR = 2; 6 CDR = 5/white and gray matter from SFG, STG, IPL and cerebellum/ESI-MS	[22]
PC	unchanged/wet weight	9 AD and 9 controls/HPG, SMTG, IPL and cerebellum/TLC	[14]
PC	decreased/DNA	10 AD and 10 controls/frontal, primary auditory and parietal cortex/HPLC-fluorimetric detection	[16]
PC	unchanged/wet weight	6 AD and 4 controls/gray matter from frontal cortex, parietal and temporal region/HPLC	[17]
PC	decreased/phosphate	15 AD and 13 controls/frontal cortex, hippocampus and white matter/HPLC and GC	[19]

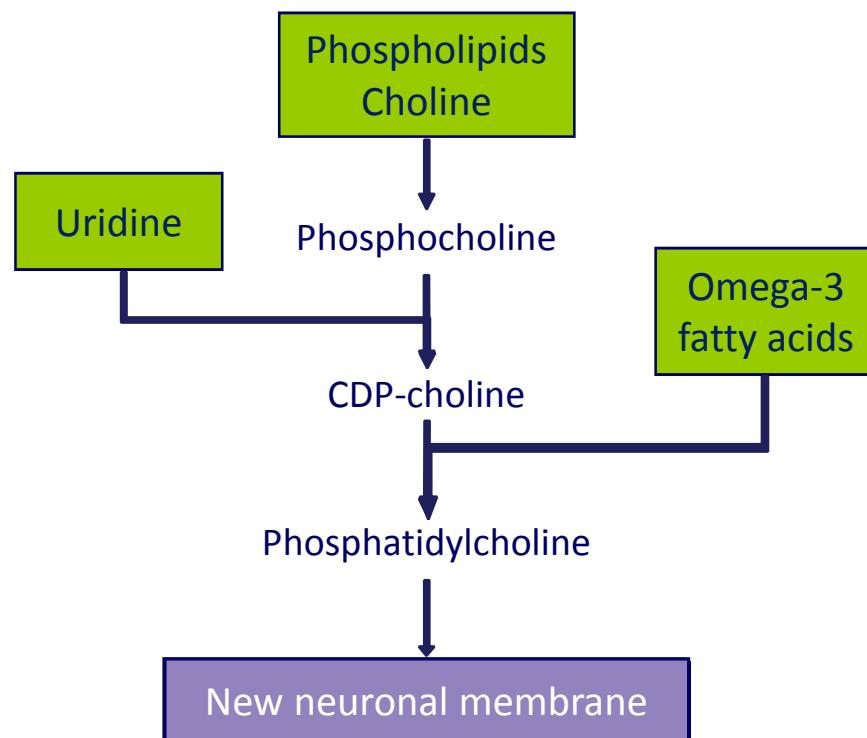
## 4. Conclusions

“... Phospholipids provide an optimal membrane environment for protein interactions, trafficking and function. There is increasing evidence that phospholipid changes occur during pathogenic processes in Alzheimer's disease. ...”

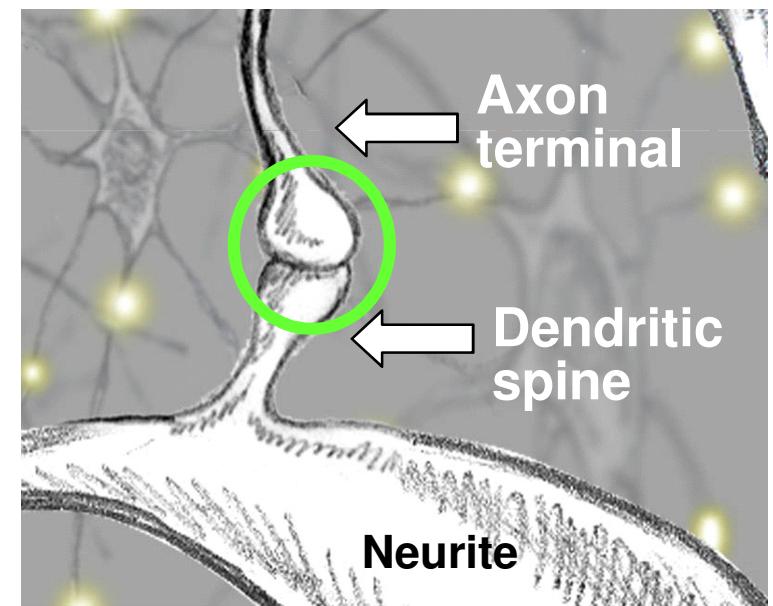
# Dietary precursor control of neural membrane synthesis



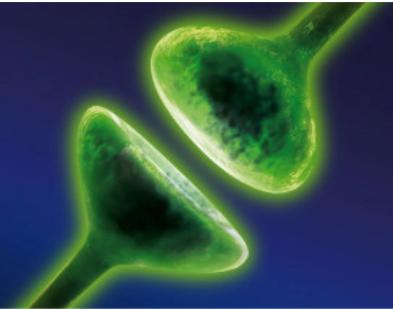
The Kennedy pathway for biosynthesis  
of neuronal membrane



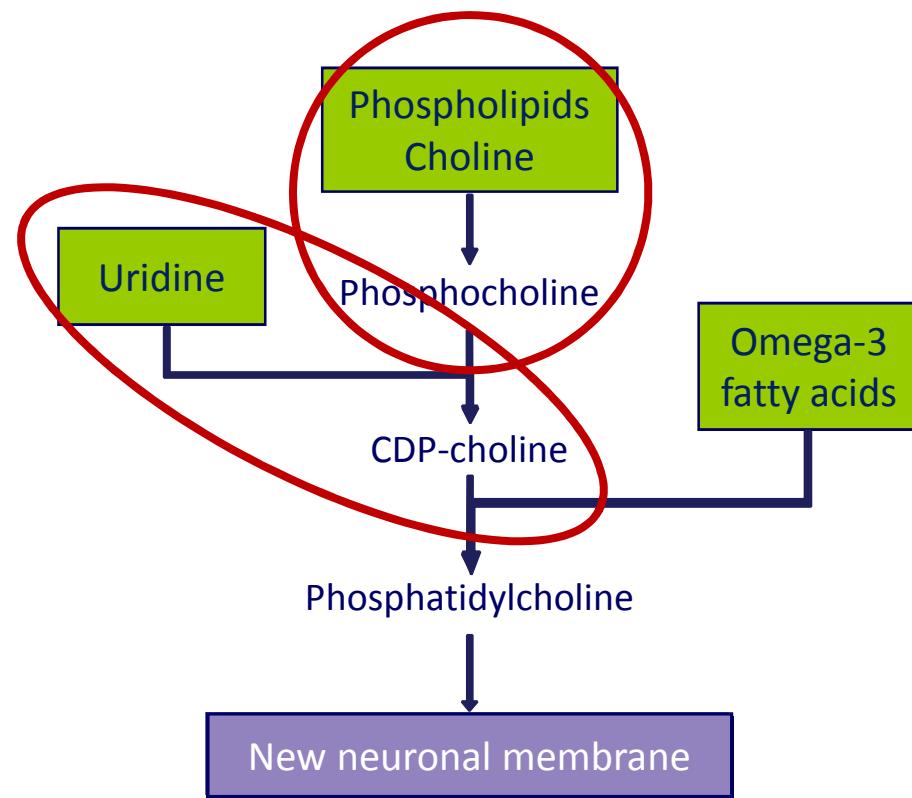
Membranes are main constituents of synapses



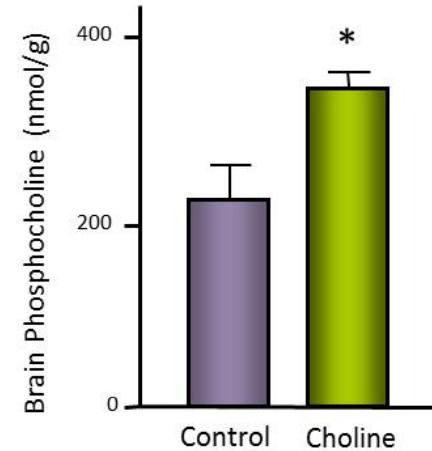
# Dietary precursor control of neural membrane synthesis



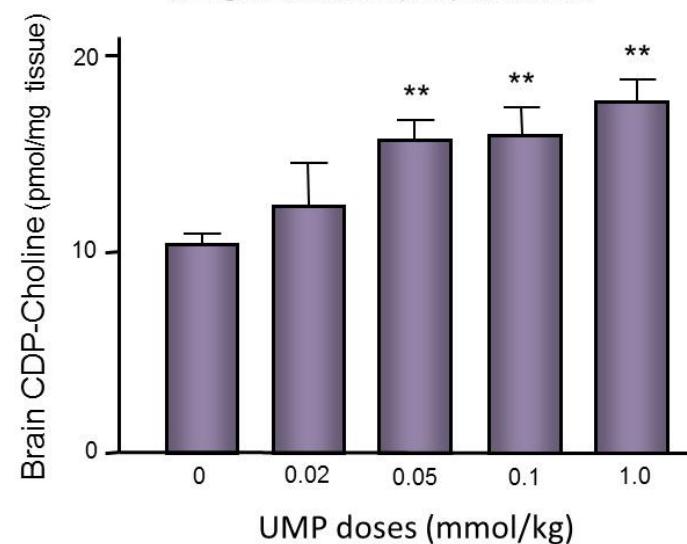
The Kennedy pathway for biosynthesis  
neuronal membrane



Kennedy & Weiss (1956) J Biol Chem

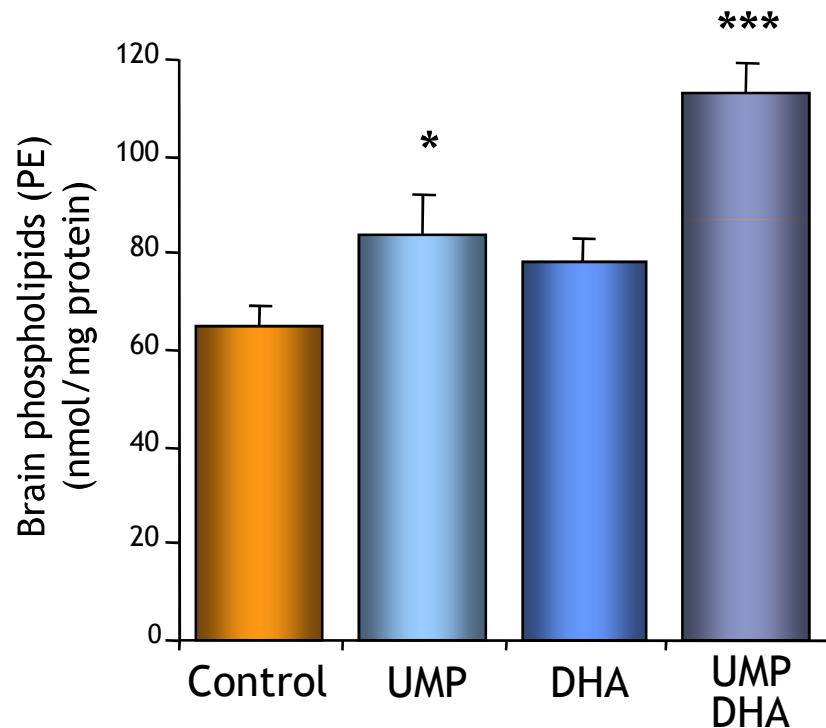


Millington & Wurtman (1982) J Neurochem

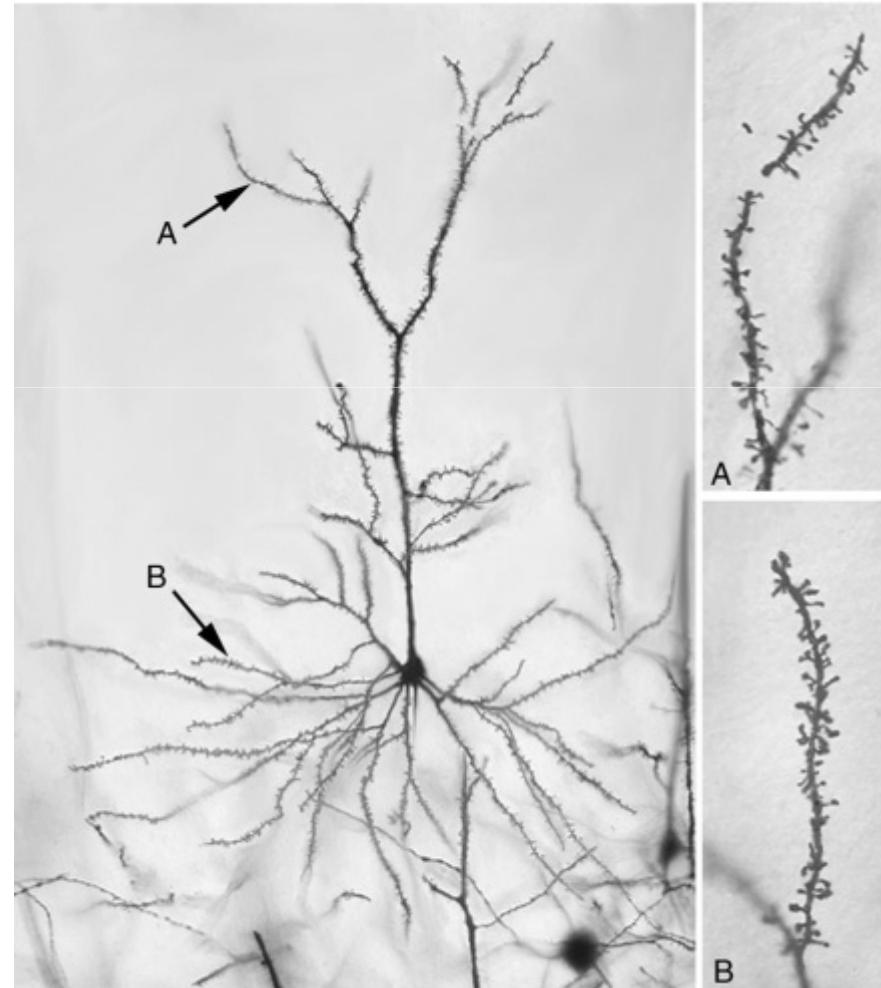
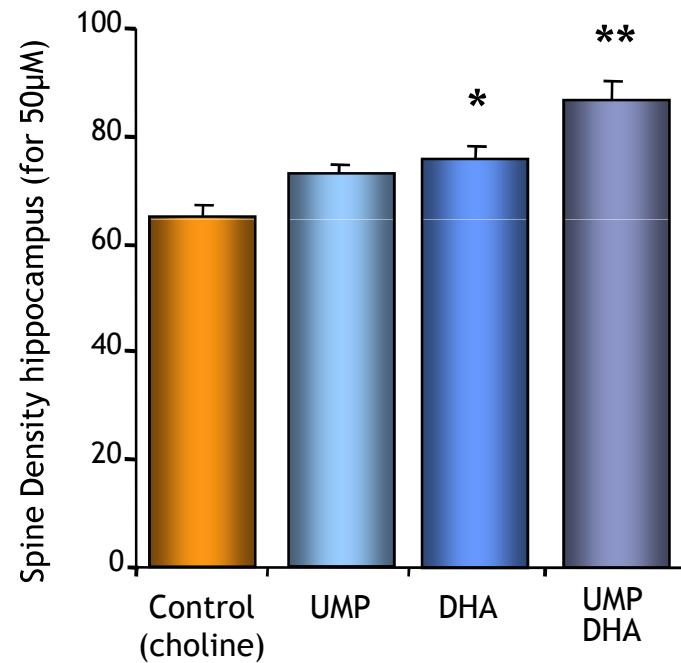


Cansev et al (2005) Brain Res

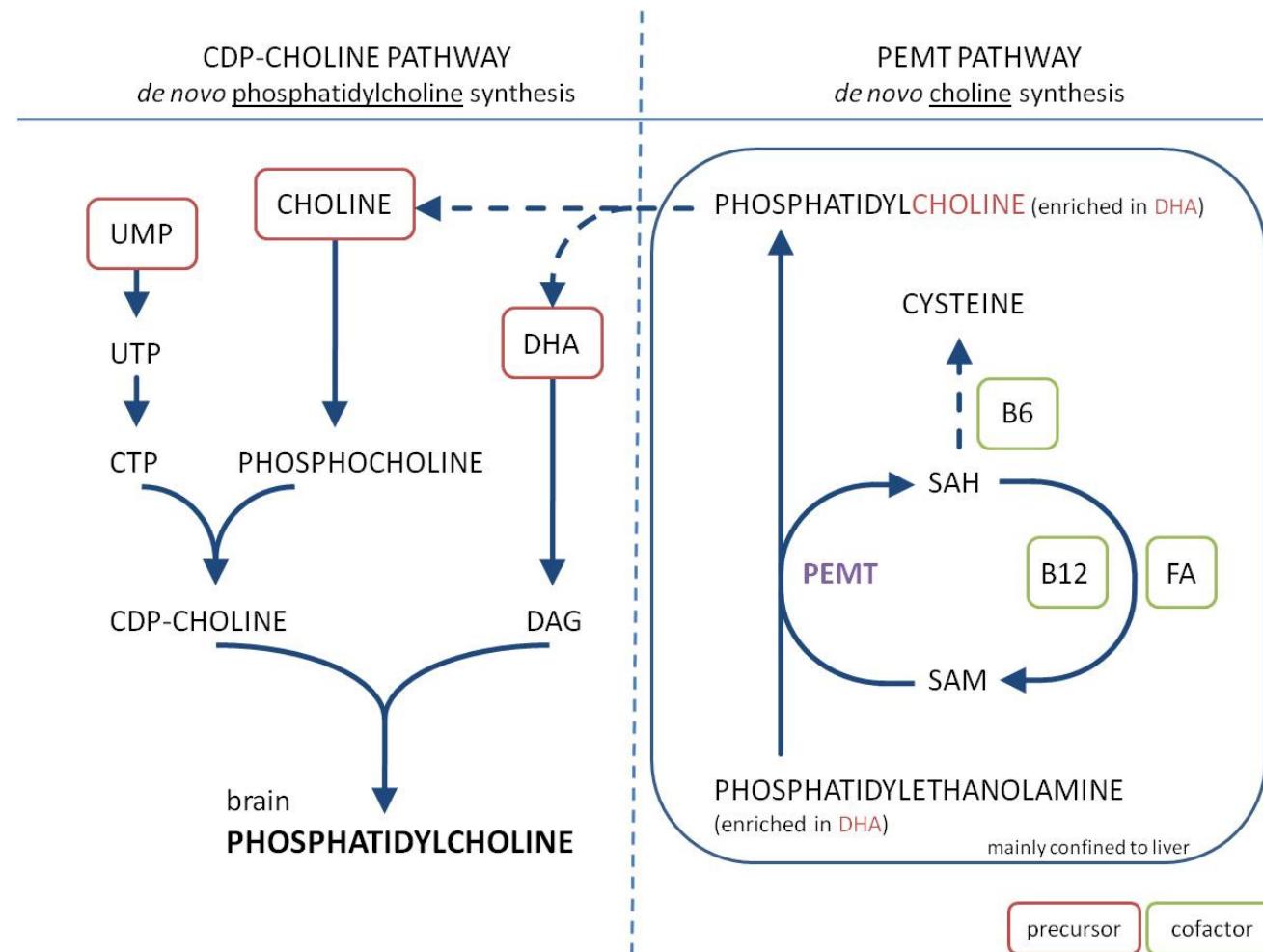
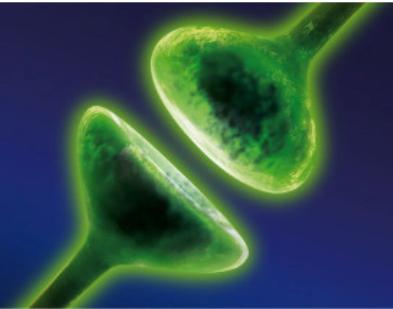
# Dietary precursors can be rate-limiting: Synergy between dietary precursors



# Dietary precursors increase membrane dominant structures: Dendritic spines



# B-vitamins: cofactors for endogenous production of membrane precursors

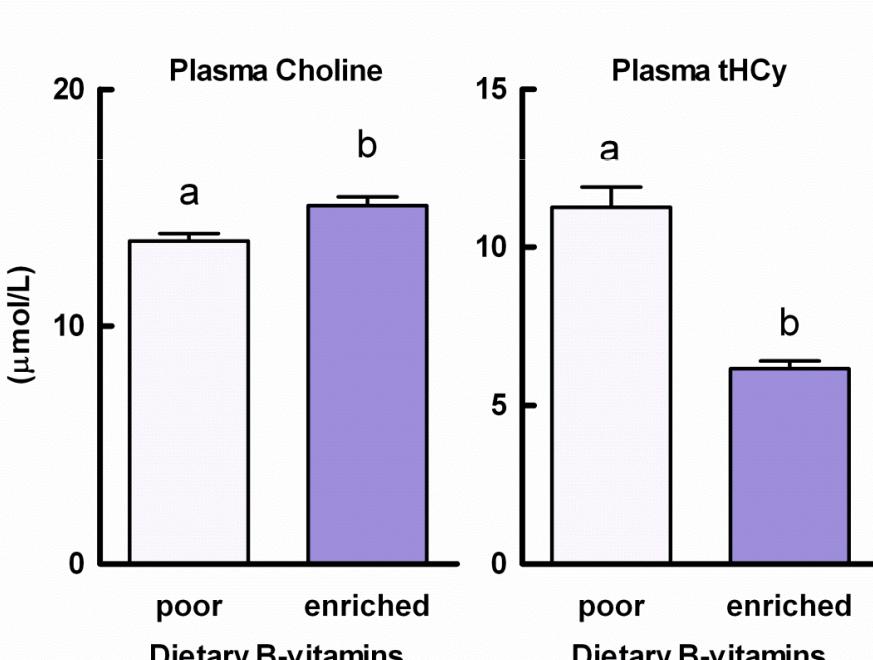


PEMT = phosphatidylethanolamine-N-methyltransferase

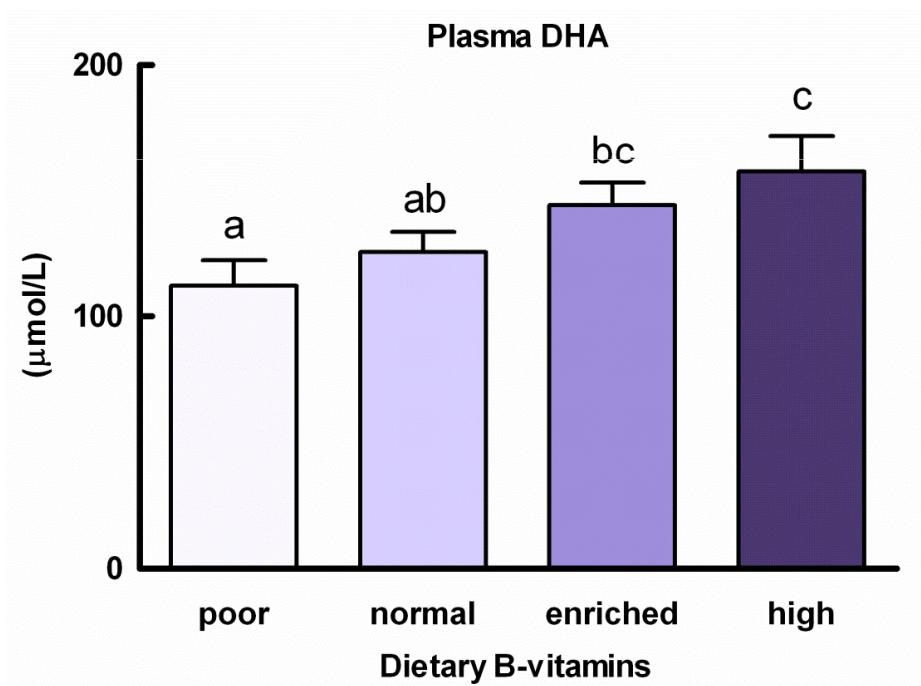
# Precursor availability: B-vitamins increase plasma choline and DHA



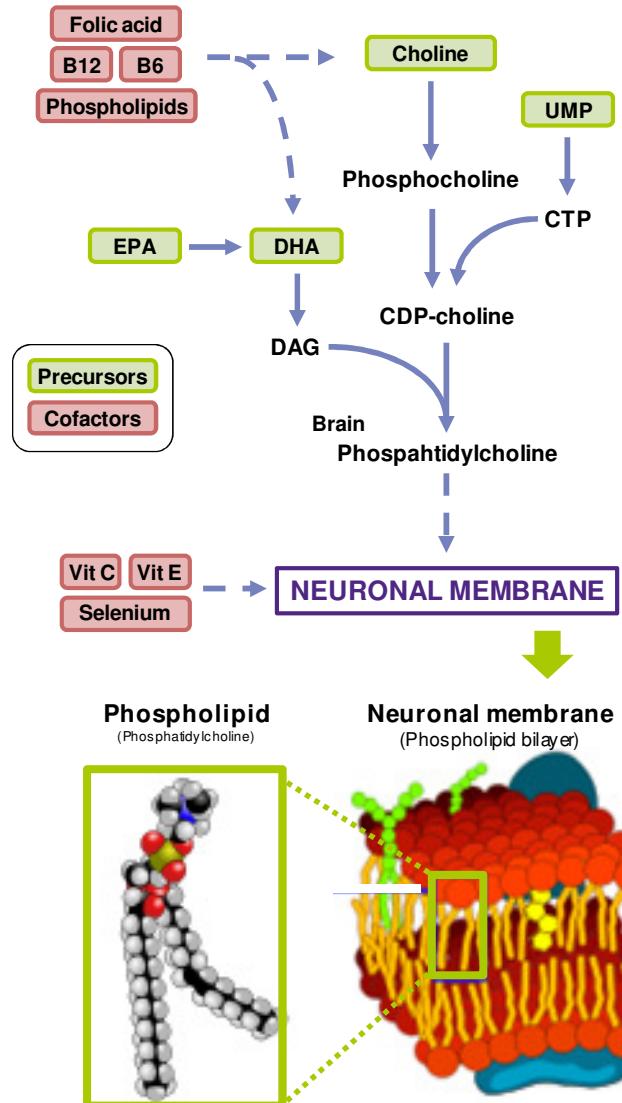
B vitamins increase choline



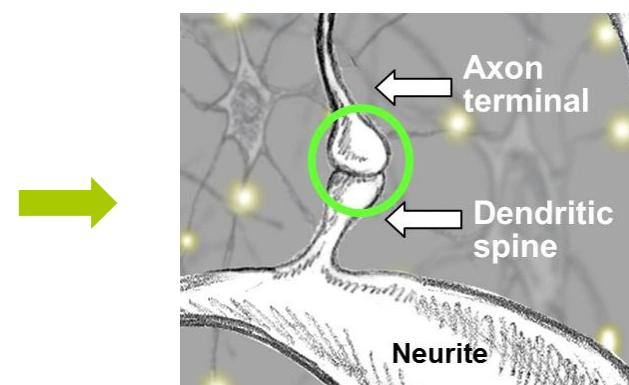
B vitamins dose-dependently increase DHA



# Nutritional precursors and cofactors: enhanced availability by Fortasyn Connect



- Synapses are continuously being remodeled
- Synapses are part of the neuronal membrane
- Membranes consist of phospholipids
- Phospholipid synthesis depends on the presence of uridine, choline and DHA
- B-vitamins enhance precursor bioavailability
- Antioxidants protect the neuronal membrane and maintain its integrity, stability and function



# Precursors and cofactors enhance synapse formation and function – basic science data

Journal of Alzheimer's Disease 38 (2014) 459–479  
DOI 10.3233/JAD-130998  
IOS Press

459 nnect

## Review

# Targeting Synaptic Dysfunction in Alzheimer's Disease by Administering a Specific Nutrient Combination

3

8

8

3,29

Nick van Wijk<sup>a,\*</sup>, Laus M. Broersen<sup>a</sup>, Martijn C. de Wilde<sup>a</sup>, Robert J.J. Hageman<sup>a</sup>,  
Martine Groenendijk<sup>a</sup>, John W.C. Sijben<sup>a</sup> and Patrick J.G.H. Kamphuis<sup>a,b</sup>

<sup>a</sup>*Nutricia Advanced Medical Nutrition, Nutricia Research, Utrecht, The Netherlands*

<sup>b</sup>*Utrecht Institute for Pharmaceutical Sciences (UIPS), Utrecht University, Utrecht, The Netherlands*

- improve learning & memory / behavior

[V] 11,15-17 [V] 19,22,29-31

1. Cansev (2005) Brain Res	8. Sakamoto (2007) Brain Res	15. de Wilde (2002) Brain Res	22. Jansen (2013) PLOS ONE	29. Jansen (2013) Brain Struc Fun
2. Ulus (2006) Cell Mol Neurobiol	9. Farkas (2002) Brain Res	16. de Bruin (2003) J Learn Mem	23. Broersen (2013) J Alz Dis	30. Koivisto (2013) in press
3. Van Wijk (2011) Br J Nutr	10. Wang (2007) Brain Res	17. Holguin (2008) BehavBrainRes	24. Savelkoul (2012) AAIC	31. Wiesmann (2013) JAD
4. Van Wijk (2012) Nutr Metab	11. Kariv-Inbal (2012) JAD	18. van Wijk (2014) JAD	25. Zerbi (2013) Neurobiol Aging	
5. Wurtman (2006) Brain Res	12. Grimm (2011) JBC	19. de Wilde (2011) J Alz Dis	26. Savelkoul (2011) ADPD	
6. Wang (2005) J Mol Neurosci	13. Teather (2003) PNBP	20. Cansev (2012) data on file	27. Verheijen (2012) data on file	
7. Pooler (2005) Neuroscience	14. de Wilde (2003) Brain Res	21. Cansev (2013) data on file	28. Savelkoul (2012) J Neurochem	

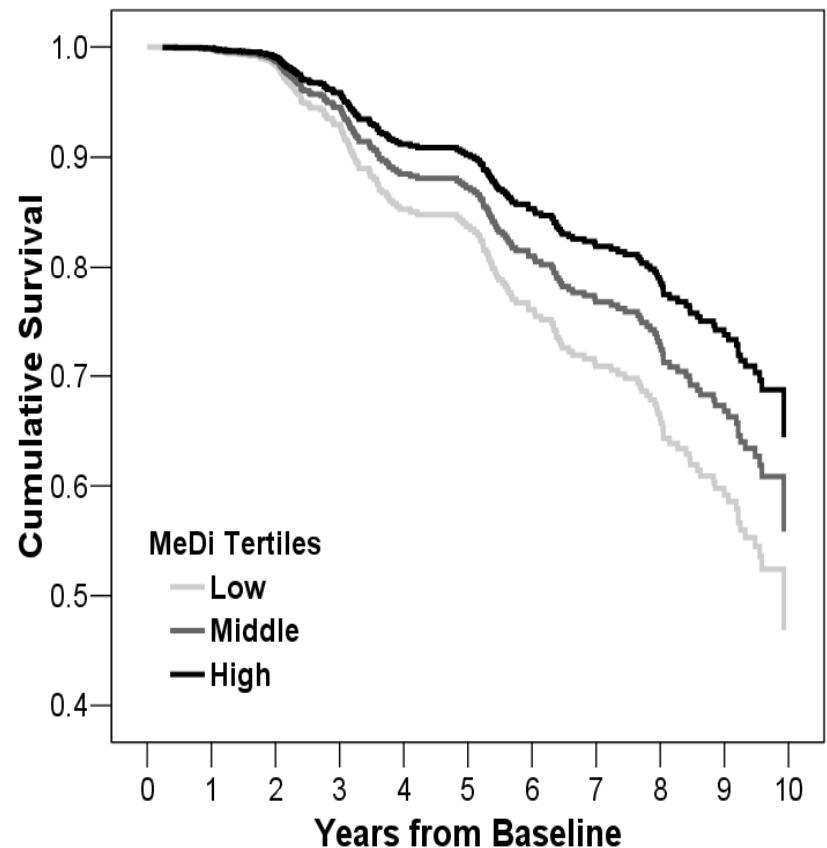
# AD risk and nutrient intake

Observational studies suggest a link between Mediterranean diet & AD risk, but data not fully consistent

## Mediterranean diet:

- High vegetables, legumes, fruits, and cereals
- High unsaturated fatty acids
- Low saturated fatty acids
- Moderately high fish
- Low-to-moderate dairy
- Low meat and poultry
- Regular but moderate amount of ethanol, primarily in the form of wine and generally, during meals

## AD incidence by diet tertile

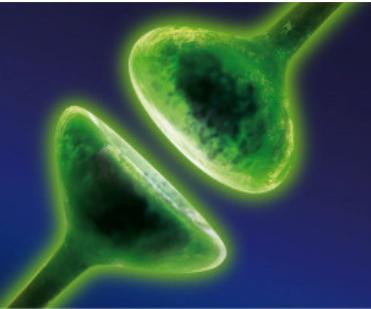


Scarmeas et al, *Ann Neurol*, 2006; Psaltopoulou et al, *Public Health Nutr*, 2008;

Feart et al, *JAMA*, 2009; Cherbuin et al, *Am J Geriatr Psychiatry*, 2011; Tangney et al, *Am J Clin Nutr*, 2011

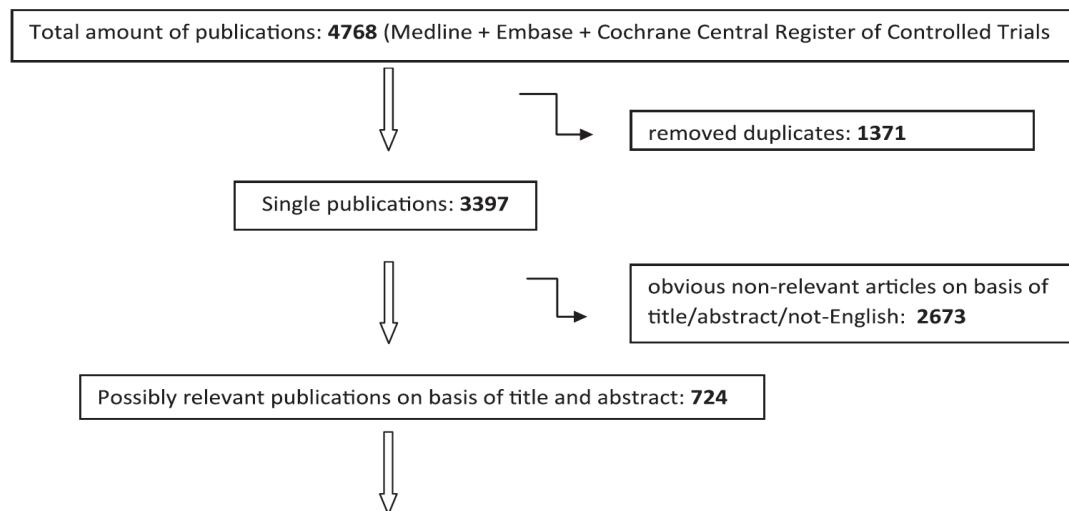
Scarmeas et al (2006) Ann Neurol

# Systematic review and meta-analysis on nutrient availability in AD



- According to Preferred Reporting Items for Systematic Reviews and Meta-Analysis (PRISMA) guidelines
- Analyses by independent statisticians

Flow Chart Literature Search



**Alzheimer's  
&  
Dementia**

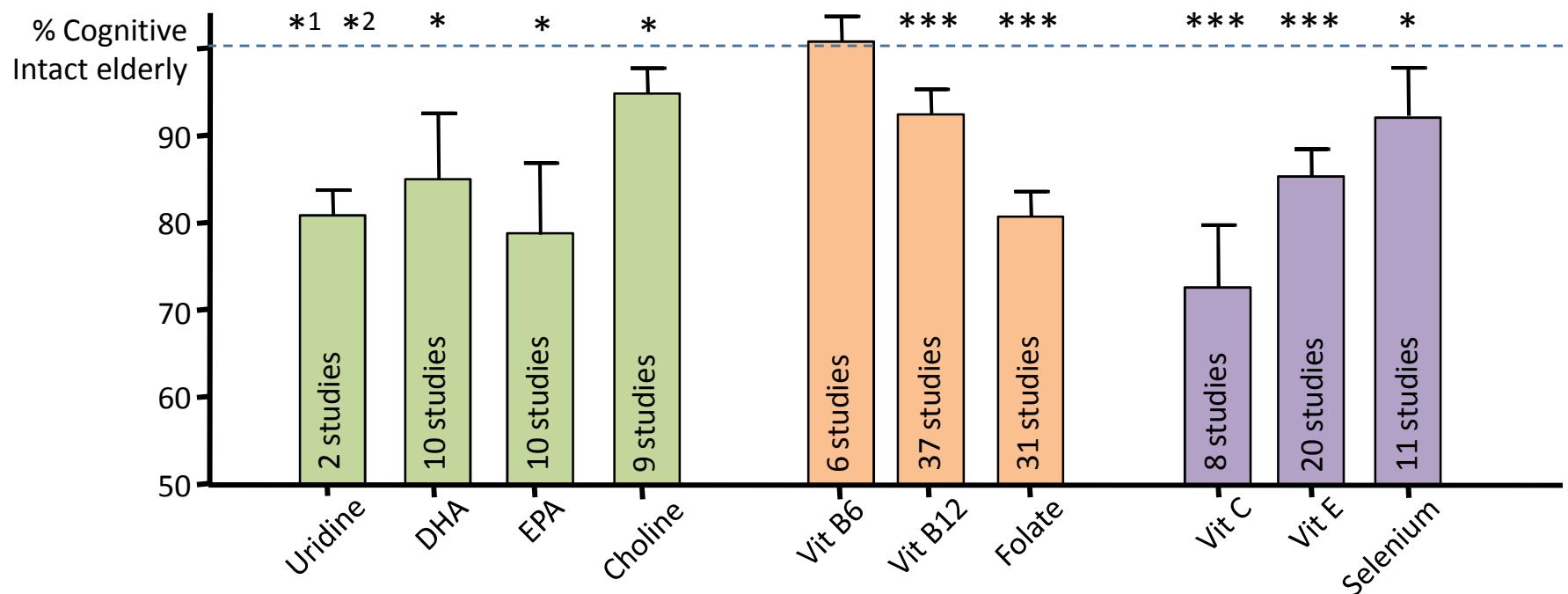
## Plasma nutrient status of patients with Alzheimer's disease: Systematic review and meta-analysis

Sofia Lopes da Silva<sup>a,b</sup>, Bruno Vellas<sup>c</sup>, Saskia Elemans<sup>a</sup>, José Luchsinger<sup>d</sup>, Patrick Kamphuis<sup>a,b</sup>, Kristine Yaffe<sup>e</sup>, John Sijben<sup>a,\*</sup>, Martine Groenendijk<sup>a</sup>, Theo Stijnen<sup>f</sup>

# Systematic review and meta-analysis of literature: Lower plasma levels of precursors & cofactors in AD



Plasma nutrient status in AD  
Meta-analyses, systematic review and observations



1:Trushina (2013) PLOS  
2:Olde Rikkert (2013)ADPD

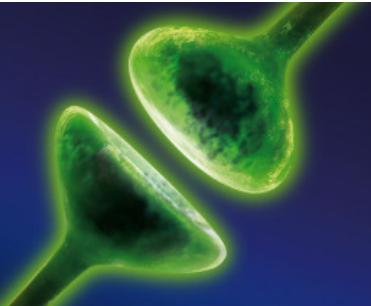
Meta-analyses  
Lin (2012) JCP

Meta-analyses  
data on file

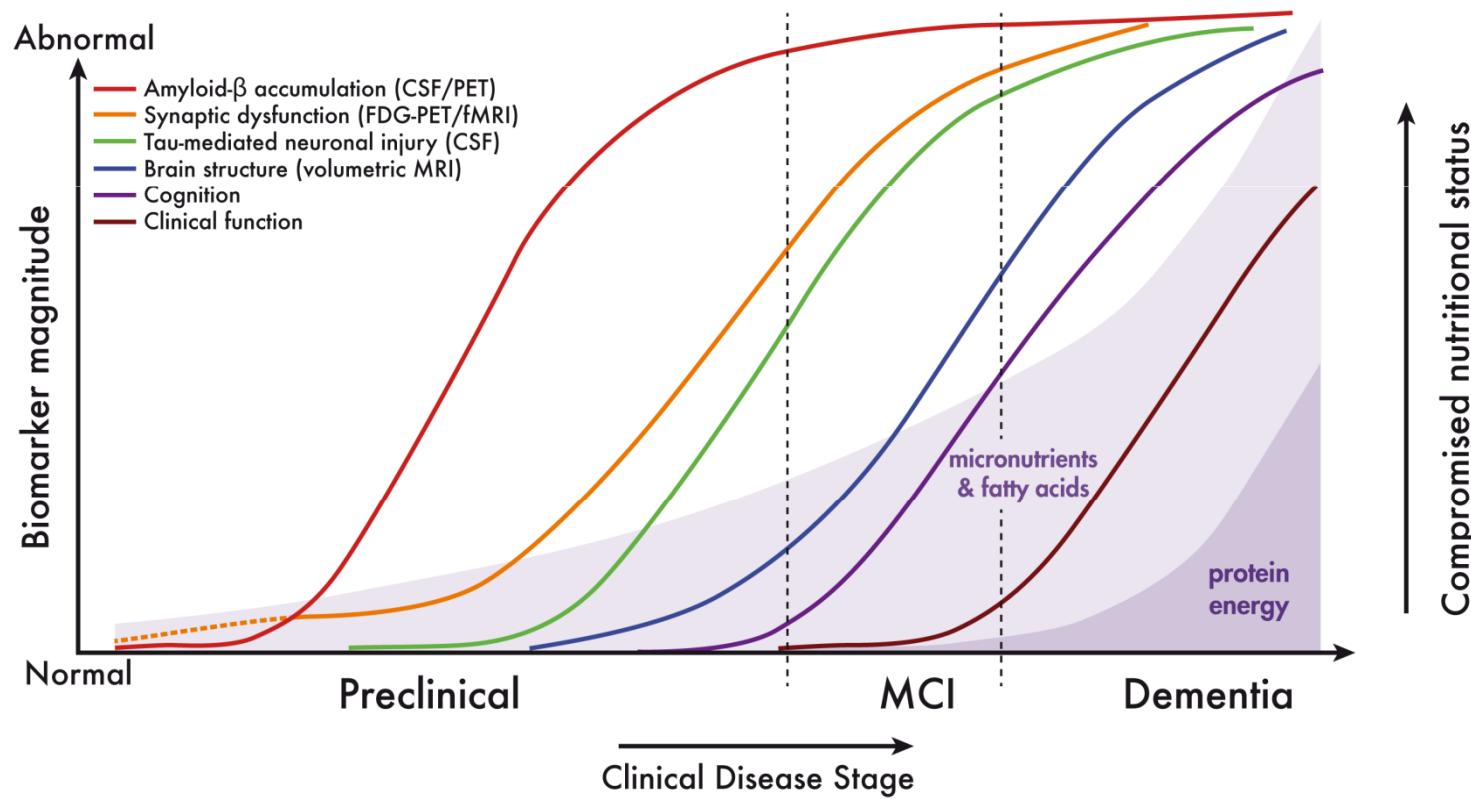
Meta-analyses  
Lopes da Silva (2013) Alz Dement

Systematic review  
Loef (2011) JAD

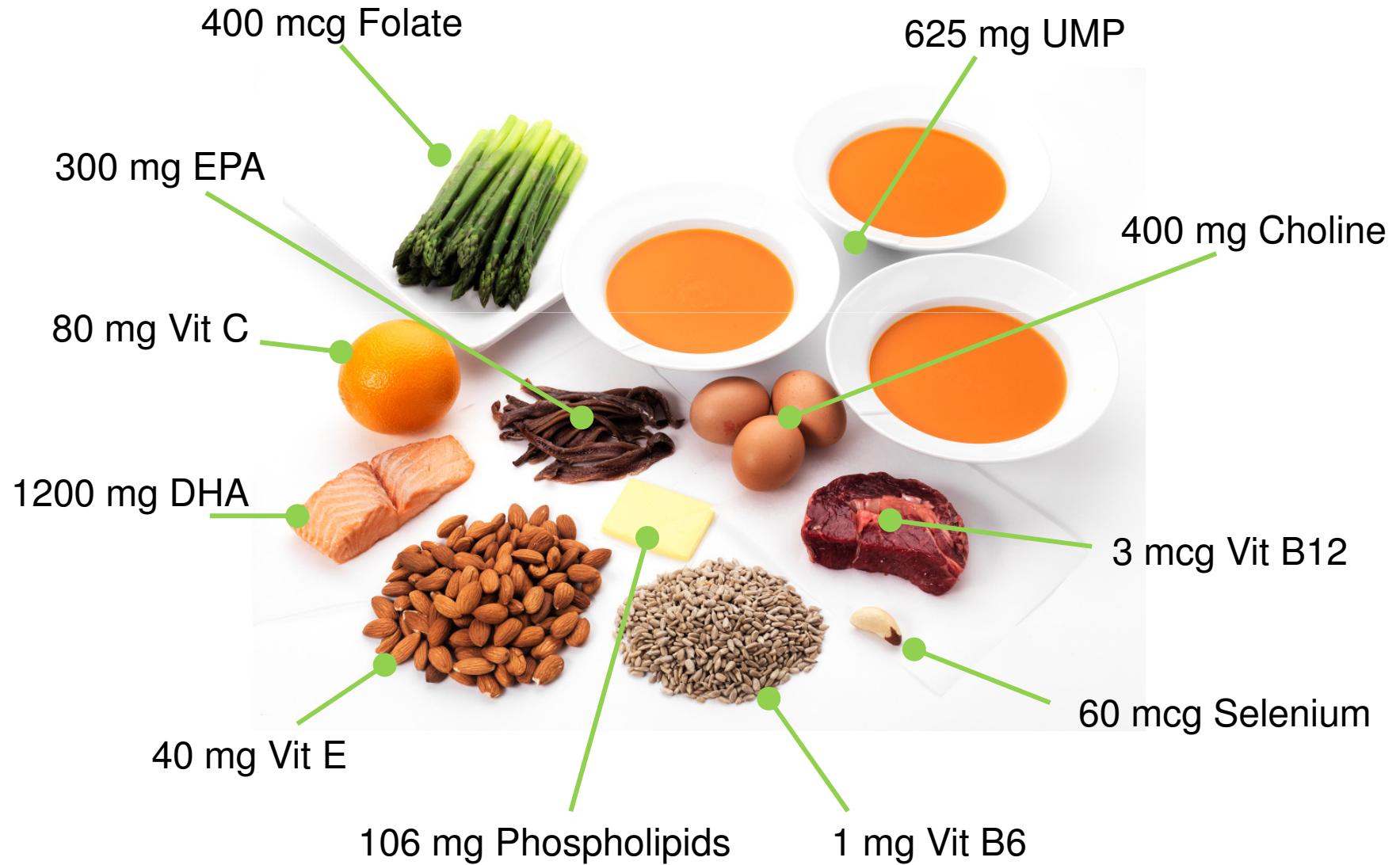
# Lower nutrient status preceding classic protein energy malnutrition



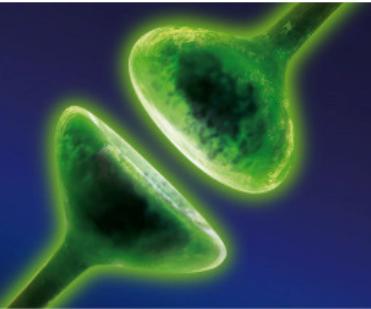
Epidemiological relate dietary patterns with AD risk



# Development of Souvenaid: addressing AD specific requirements



# Souvenaid Clinical Development



	Prodromal AD	Mild AD	Moderate AD
S-Connect			
Souvenir I			WMS-r & ADAS-cog MMSE 20-26, drug-naïve
Souvenir II			NTB + EEG MMSE ≥ 20, drug-naïve
Open Label Extension Study Open Label			Safety + Compliance + NTB
MEG study			MEG + EEG +NTB MMSE ≥ 20, drug-naïve
MRS study			<sup>31</sup> P and <sup>1</sup> H-MRS MMSE ≥ 20, drug-naïve
NL-Enigma		<sup>18</sup> FDG-PET MMSE ≥ 20, drug-naïve	
LipiDiDiet	NTB + MRI / CSF MMSE ≥ 24, drug-naïve		

Souvenir I received funding from NL STW

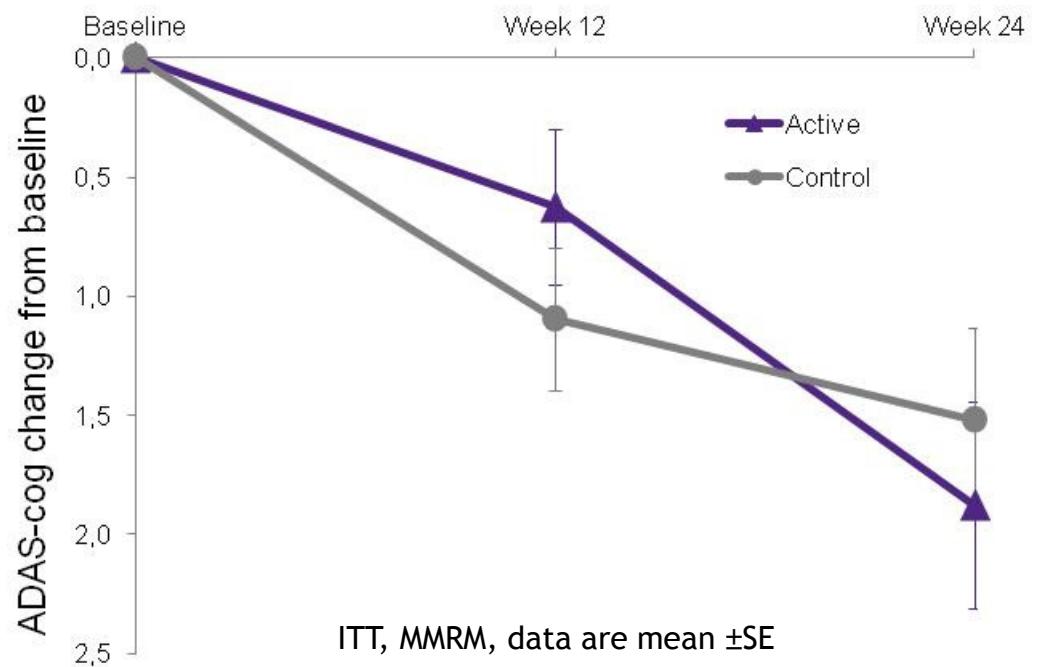
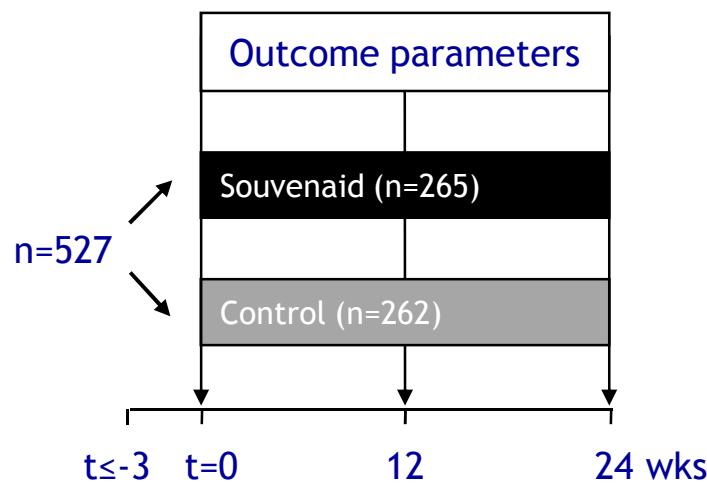
Souvenir II receives funding from the NL Food & Nutrition Delta project, FND N°10003

LipiDiDiet is funded by the EU FP7 project LipiDiDiet, Grant Agreement N°211696

NL-Enigma funded by NWO NIHC project, N°057-13-003.

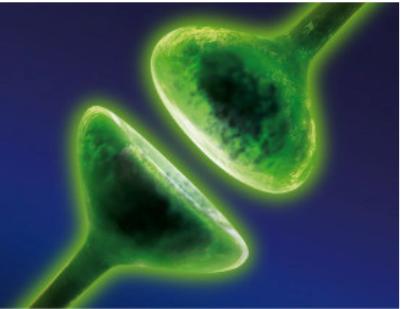
# S-Connect study: mild to moderate AD on AD medication

- Principle investigators: David Bennett and Raj Shah, Rush, Chicago
- Multi-centre (48 sites in the US), randomized, controlled trial
- Intervention 24 weeks
- Primary outcome:
  - ADAS-cog-11

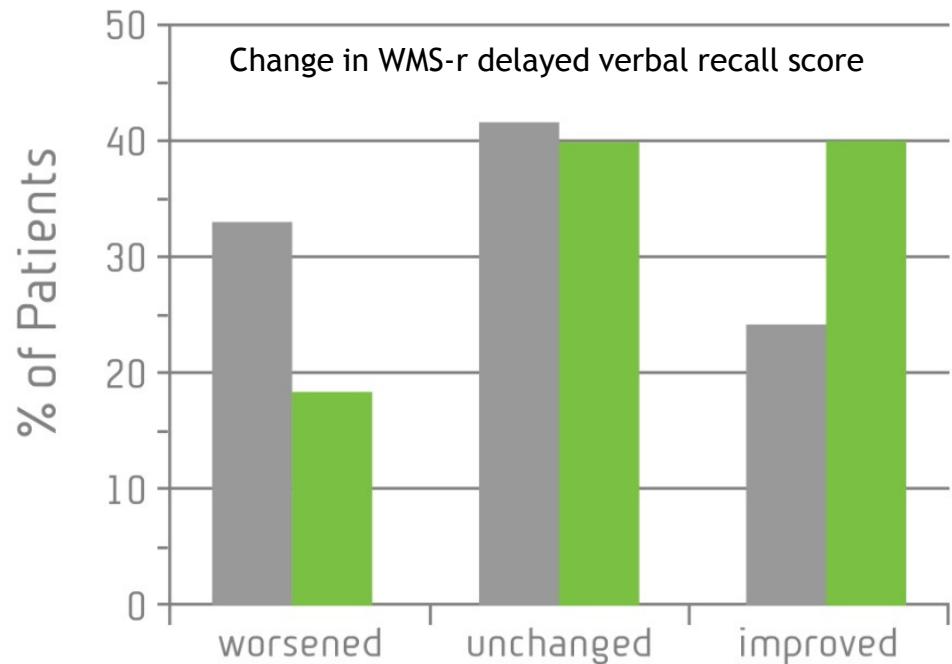
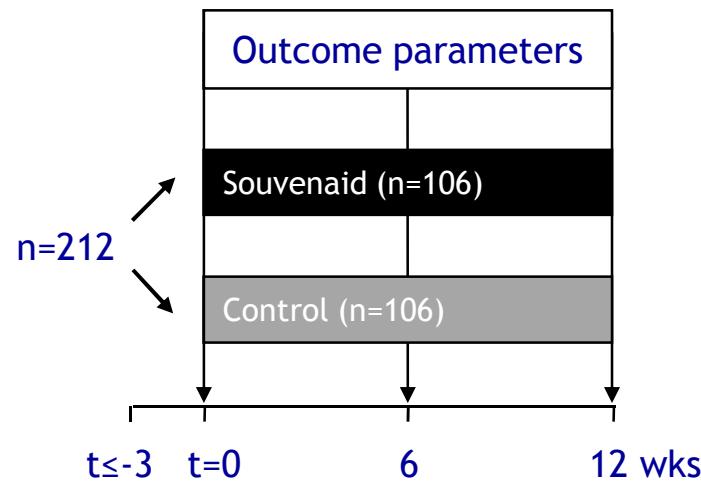


No significant effect ( $p=0.513$ ) during 24 weeks

# Souvenir I: Proof of concept study in drug-naïve mild AD



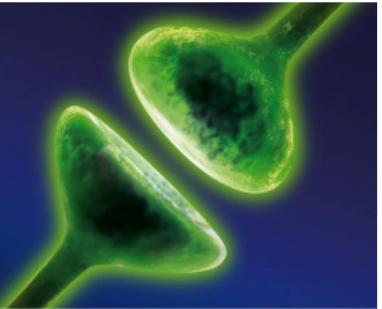
- Multi-country (NL, Bel, Ger, UK, US), randomized, controlled trial
- Intervention 12 weeks (*+ optional 12 wk extension*)
- Co-primary outcomes:
  - WMS-r delayed verbal recall
  - ADAS-cog-13



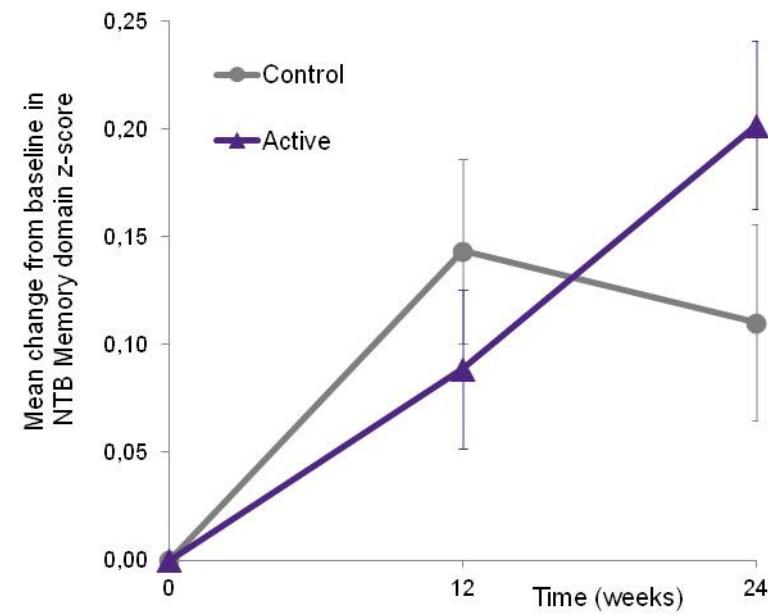
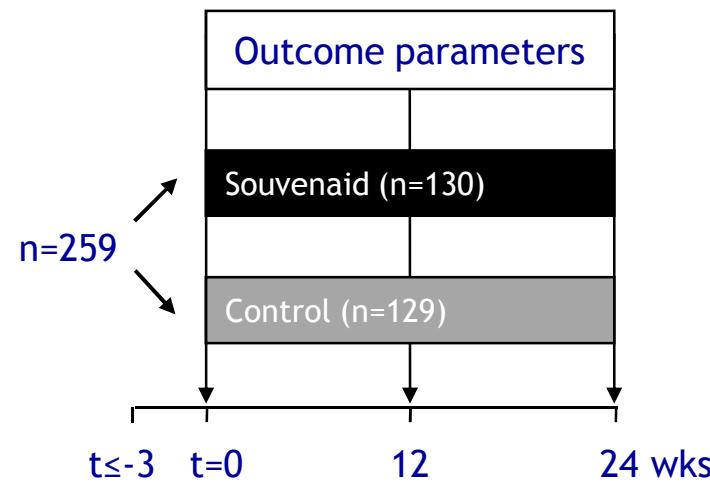
Scheltens et al (2010) Alzh Dement

Significantly more responders after 12 weeks (p=0.021)

# Souvenir II study: drug-naive mild AD

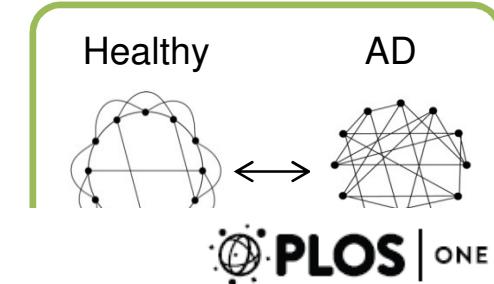
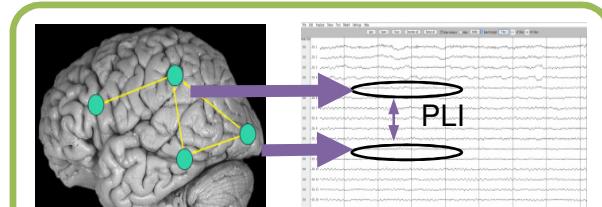
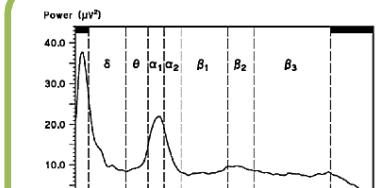


- Multi-country (NL, Ger, Bel, Fr, It, Sp), randomized, controlled trial
- Intervention 24 weeks
- Primary outcome: Memory Domain NTB (z-score):
  - RAVLT immediate, delayed, recognition and VPA immediate and delayed



Significantly improved memory ( $p=0.023$ )  
Memory domain score (z-score) of NTB

# Electrical activity at the synapse – EEG biomarker for functional connectivity



OPEN ACCESS Freely available online

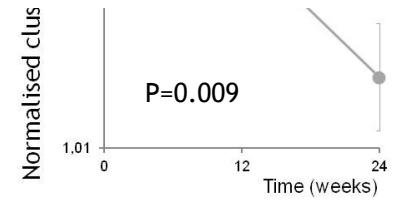
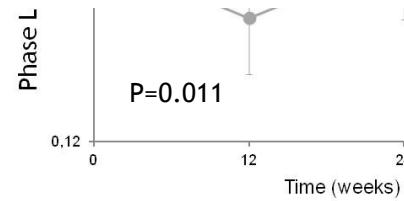
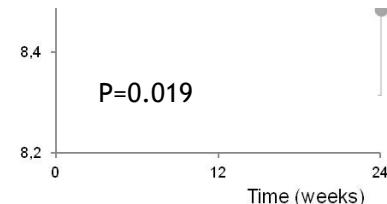
PLOS ONE

## The Effect of Souvenaid on Functional Brain Network Organisation in Patients with Mild Alzheimer's Disease: A Randomised Controlled Study

Hanneke de Waal<sup>1\*</sup>, Cornelis J. Stam<sup>2</sup>, Marieke M. Lansbergen<sup>3</sup>, Rico L. Wieggers<sup>3</sup>,  
Patrick J. G. H. Kamphuis<sup>3</sup>, Philip Scheltens<sup>1</sup>, Fernando Maestú<sup>4</sup>, Elisabeth C. W. van Straaten<sup>2,3</sup>

**1** Alzheimer Center & Department of Neurology, Neuroscience Campus Amsterdam, VU University Medical Center, Amsterdam, The Netherlands, **2** Department of Clinical Neurophysiology, Neuroscience Campus Amsterdam, VU University Medical Center, Amsterdam, The Netherlands, **3** Nutricia Research, Utrecht, The Netherlands,

**4** Laboratory of Cognitive and Computational Neuroscience, UCM-UPM Center for Biomedical Technology, Madrid, Spain

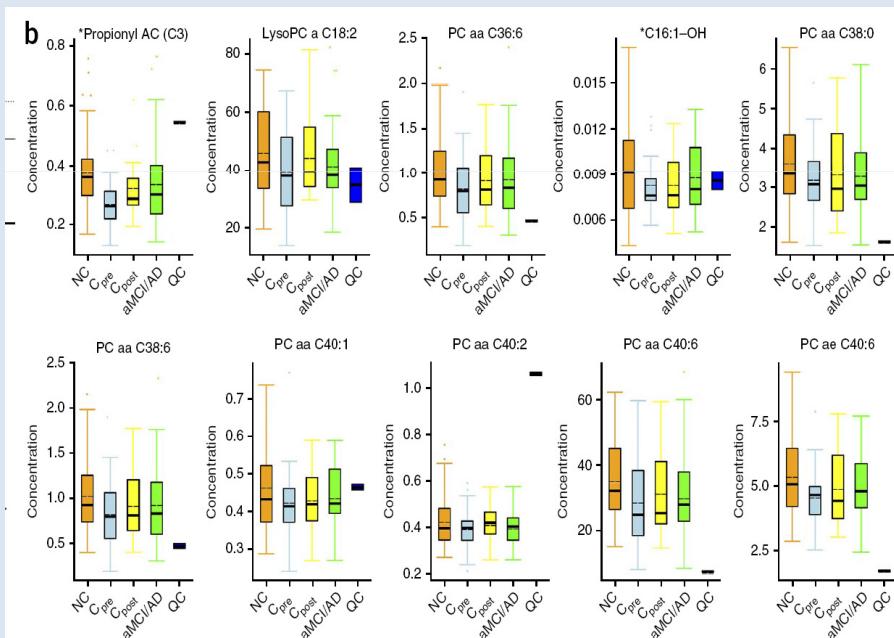


Scheltens et al (2012) J Alzheimers Dis; de Waal et al (2014) PlosOne

# Plasma phospholipids identify antecedent memory impairment in older adults

Mark Mapstone<sup>1</sup>, Amrita K Cheema<sup>2,3</sup>, Massimo S Fiandaca<sup>4,5</sup>, Xiaogang Zhong<sup>6</sup>, Timothy R Mhyre<sup>5</sup>, Linda H MacArthur<sup>5</sup>, William J Hall<sup>7</sup>, Susan G Fisher<sup>8,14</sup>, Derick R Peterson<sup>9</sup>, James M Haley<sup>10</sup>, Michael D Nazar<sup>11</sup>, Steven A Rich<sup>12</sup>, Dan J Berlau<sup>13,14</sup>, Carrie B Peltz<sup>13</sup>, Ming T Tan<sup>6</sup>, Claudia H Kawas<sup>13</sup> & Howard J Federoff<sup>4,5</sup>

## NATURE MEDICINE



- set of 10 plasma lipids, including 8 phospholipids
- levels are lower in converters and MCI/AD subjects

- Mapstone et al. identified a biomarker panel of 10 plasma lipids that can predict conversion from cognitive healthy to MCI/AD within 2-3 years with >90% accuracy
- Changes may reflect the breakdown of neuronal membranes
- Highly publicized findings

### The Washington Post

Blood test may predict onset of Alzheimer's and related disease, new study finds

By Tara Bahrampour, E-mail the writer ↗

Researchers at Georgetown University announced the discovery of a blood test that can predict whether a person will develop Alzheimer's disease or a related condition within three years.

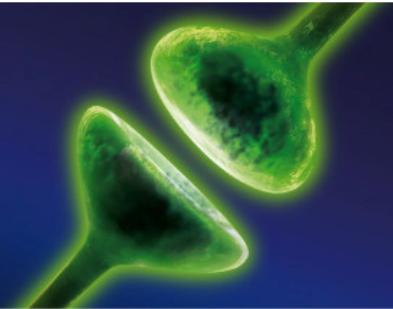
BMJ

Blood test can predict Alzheimer's disease, say US scientists

Jacqui Wise



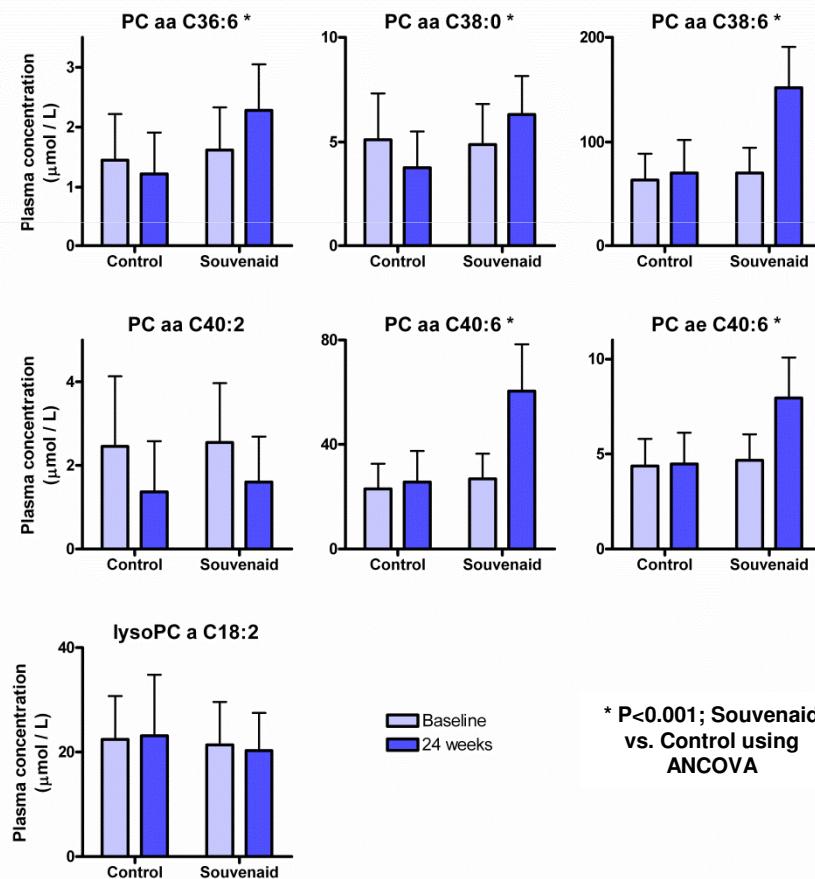
# Souvenaid increases levels of the biomarker phospholipids



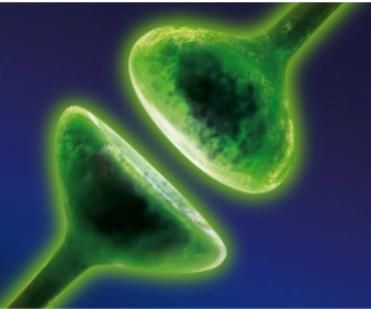
- Baseline and 24-week plasma samples from the Souvenir II study
- Drug-naïve patients with very mild AD
- Polar lipid profile

- By providing nutrients which normally rate-limit phospholipid synthesis Souvenaid can:
  - modify a biomarker profile reflecting disturbed phospholipid metabolism
  - be useful in asymptomatic subjects with plasma lipid biomarker profiles predictive for conversion to AD

5 / 7 measured phospholipids reported by Mapstone significantly increased by Souvenaid



# Souvenaid Clinical Development



	Prodromal AD	Mild AD	Moderate AD
S-Connect			
Souvenir I			WMS-r & ADAS-cog MMSE 20-26, drug-naïve
Souvenir II			NTB + EEG MMSE ≥ 20, drug-naïve
Open Label Extension Study Open Label			Safety + Compliance + NTB
MEG study			MEG + EEG +NTB MMSE ≥ 20, drug-naïve
MRS study			<sup>31</sup> P and <sup>1</sup> H-MRS MMSE ≥ 20, drug-naïve
NL-Enigma		<sup>18</sup> FDG-PET MMSE ≥ 20, drug-naïve	
LipiDiDiet	NTB + MRI / CSF MMSE ≥ 24, drug-naïve		

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Souvenir II receives funding from the NL Food & Nutrition Delta project, FND N°10003

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NL-Enigma funded by NWO NIHC project, N°057-13-003.



Thank you!